

inform people better about Africa. "The critical point is that the lack of information in this society about Africa has to be laid at the door of those groups who have the ability to inform people better."

One hopeful sign is that the African-American community is increasingly finding its voice on African politics beyond South Africa. Randall Robinson's TransAfrica lobby, created in 1977, has intensified the influence of African Americans in foreign policy. In March Mr. Robinson created a coalition of prominent African Americans who pledged to put pressure on Nigeria's military dictatorship to restore democracy.

TransAfrica also might do well to pressure the media to cover the continent more thoughtfully. A few newspapers already do. The New York Times' Donatella Lorch has provided consistently good coverage of Rwanda, including insightful reporting on the massacre in late April of 2,000 people in the Kilbeho camp. An excellent series of articles in March in The Philadelphia Inquirer, "Remnants of a Nation," focused on Rwanda one year after the genocide of 1994. The reporter, Glenn Burkins, included the standard angles—refugees, ethnic strife—but also discussed lesser-known aspects of the situation in Rwanda, such as the prison system and the urgent need for international aid to the Rwandan Government. The media can help keep Rwanda from sliding back into oblivion.

Similarly, the media can help by more fully explicating the problems of current African trouble spots. Thousands are fleeing from ethnic unrest in Burundi; Christians are being massacred (and, recently, crucified) by Government troops in southern Sudan, and 2,000 people have already lost their lives in the past two years in ethnic land clashes in Kenya. Though the Western powers are not yet involved in these crises, learning more from the media could help prevent the sort of spasmodic, misinformed responses to crises that will continue to dog Africa in the future.

In the end, the problems of Africa remain our problems. The people are, as Jesus would undoubtedly point out, our brothers and sisters, and many of them suffer tremendously. Fully 54 percent of the people of Africa live in absolute poverty. Furthermore, the West has been, to some degree, complicit in Africa's troubles today, not only because of the colonial past but also because of our recent actions there—the arms trade and our activities in the cold war. Finally, as Professor White pointed out, "Even if you just want to be self-interested, the concomitant ignorance of Africa is shortsighted, because in the long run, as more problems continue to emerge, our ignorance will come back to haunt us."

#### SALUTE TO GEN. MIKE LOH

• Mr. KEMPTHORNE. Mr. President, next week, General Mike Loh, Commander of Air Combat Command, will retire after 39 years of distinguished service in the U.S. Air Force. I want to take this opportunity to thank General Loh for his unselfish service to the national security interests of the United States.

General Loh's career began in the second class to graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy. After graduating with honors, Mike Loh went on to serve as a decorated fighter pilot, flying over 200 missions, in Vietnam. General Loh's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of

Merit with oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal and the Air Force Medal with seven oak leaf clusters.

Mike Loh's career reached its zenith when he was selected to serve as the Commander of Air Combat Command. As Commander of ACC, Mike Loh was responsible for most of this Nation's air power and over 250,000 men and women. As General Loh retires, the strength, professionalism and reputation of Air Combat Command has never been higher. For that, a grateful, more secure nation says thank you.

My colleagues and I in the Senate know General Loh best as a ferocious advocate for a strong Air Force. In repeated testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee, General Loh earned a reputation as a straight shooter who would tell it like it is. General Loh never hid his views or his feelings and you never left a meeting with Mike Loh wondering where he stood on an issue. At my request, General Loh made repeated visits to my office to discuss bomber and tactical aviation issues. I came away from each of those meetings more informed about the issues, more understanding of the value of air power and more impressed with General Loh's abilities. The Air Force will lose a patriot, an innovator and an articulate spokesman when General Loh retires.

I want to thank General Loh for 39 years of loyal service to the Air Force and his nation. I want to thank General Loh for his steadfast support for a strong Air Force and a service that looks out for the men and women who volunteer to wear the uniform of the United States of America. Most importantly, I want to thank General Loh for his commitment to serve and defend the national security interests of the United States.●

#### LITERACY

• Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I picked up the spring 1995 issue of the Congressional Institute for the Future and noted the following Barbara Bush quotation in it: "There is really no question that literacy is related to all our social concerns—crime, drugs, and teenage pregnancy as well as America's stature in the world, our competitiveness on the international scene, and our national security. Low literacy goes hand-in-hand with unemployment, low productivity, and problems with job retraining in our rapidly changing communities—this is a now and future issue. The literacy of parents affects the educational chances of children. We are only just beginning to treat this complex, many-sided issue with the care and concerted action it requires."

Barbara Bush provided significant leadership on this issue of literacy, and if we're to have a truly productive country, we're going to have to pay more attention to this issue.

One complaint I hear about more from heads of major corporations is

how poorly prepared American workers too often are.

The basics have to be there in the field of education to have a well prepared work force. The basics are the old "reading, writing, and arithmetic."

People in this country are not more stupid than people in other Western industrialized countries, but the other countries have had the good sense to put a greater stress on basic literacy.

We have to do the same.

Yes, we ought to improve the schools that we have, but we also have to reach out to those who have not been helped by schools, adult Americans.

I urge my colleagues to keep in mind Barbara Bush's words of wisdom.●

#### FAYE OLASOV: DEDICATED TO CHARLESTON

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, let me take this opportunity to send birthday greetings to Faye Olasov, a friend from my hometown of Charleston, SC. Faye, a long-time activist in Charleston's Jewish community who turned 70 earlier this month, soon will be honored for all her work to make Charleston a better place to live.

Mr. President, quite frankly, Faye is a whirlwind of wonder and joy. When people throughout the Charleston Jewish community think of a person who embodies family and wholesome values, Faye is the first person whose name comes to mind. She is the engine that has driven the Jewish Community Center in Charleston. At various times, she has served as day camp counselor, activities director, CenterTALK editor, Sherman House manager, and a newspaper columnist. Last December when she retired from the center, she left shoes that are hard to fill.

Faye Rabinowitz Olasov was born June 13, 1925, in Charleston. When the Nation was at war in the 1940s, she attended the College of Charleston, where she was business manager and editor of the yearbook and president of the Dramatic Society. After a distinguished college career, she graduated in 1946. On top of all her work in Charleston's active Jewish community, Faye and husband Sanford Olasov had four children—Nathan, Billy, Barbara, and Judy, who my wife Peatsy taught at St. Andrews High School.

Mr. President, now the community is coming together to give back something to Faye, who has given so much over the years. On July 9 at the Charleston Jewish Community Center, the community will honor Faye at a brunch that highlights her achievements and looks back at a life filled with compassion and great memories.

Mr. President, if I may be so bold, we should all take a look at Faye's life and use it as the model of how to be involved in a community. I appreciate this opportunity to recognize the warmth, energy, and lifelong commitment of Faye Olasov—a true community leader. Let us all wish Faye a